

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated September 17, 2008, claims 9, 11, 14 and 16-24 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and claims 1-8, 10, 12-13, and 15 were rejected.

With the foregoing amendments, claims 1-7 and 10-24 are pending in this application. Claims 8 and 9 are being cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 9, 11, 14 and 16-24 would be allowable if re-written to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 8 and 9. Claim 1 now includes all of the limitations of claim 9, base claim 1 and any intervening claims, and should therefore be in condition for allowance. Claims 11, 14, 16, 17, and 18 have also been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations recited by base claim 1 and any intervening claims and should also be in condition for allowance.

In addition, claims 2-7, 10, 12, 13, and 15 which depend from claim 1, should also be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim. Claims 19-24 all depend directly or indirectly from claim 18 and should also be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

Claim Objections

Claims 16, 22, and 24 have been amended to correct the antecedent bases problems noted by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests that these claim objections be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Bon Daniel (FR 2574253). The amendments to claim 1 which incorporated the subject matter of claim 9 and its base claims, which was indicated to be allowable, renders these rejections moot.

Claims 8, 10, 12, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being

obvious over Bon Daniel in view of Waldstrom (U.S. Patent No. 6,092,388). Claim 8 has been cancelled rendering this claim rejection moot. Claims 10, 12, and 15 depend from claim 1 and should also now be allowable as depending from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections, and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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